GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7609
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
INDIA ECO DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a World Bank aided project known as India-Eco-Development project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States for which this project has been approved;

(d) whether any such scheme is being worked out for the remaining States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

(SHRI BABULAL MARANDI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India Ecodevelopment Project is being implemented in seven Protected Areas at a total cost of US $67 millions (Rs. 294.93 crores) since October 1997 with the following objectives:

(i) To improve the capacity of Protected Areas Management to conserve biodiversity and gain support of the local people for conservation by improving opportunities for local participation in protected Areas Management;

(ii) To reduce negative impact of the local people on biodiversity; and

(iii) Education and awareness, monitoring and research for furthering the cause of conservation in the identified Tiger Reserves and National Parks.

(c) The Project is being implemented in the States of Bihar, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

(d) & (e) A concept paper for the 2nd phase of India EcoDevelopment project has been finalized. The concept paper suggests inclusion of 10 more Protected Areas under the project.